I CLAIM:

1. An absorbent article comprising:

an elongated material having two enlarged end portions and a narrowed portion intermediate said two enlarged end portions, one of said two enlarged end portions corresponding to a back region of said absorbent article; and

said elongated material comprising a fluid impermeable backsheet, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to one side of said fluid impermeable backsheet, and a flap sheet attached to said fluid permeable body-side liner, said flap sheet being expandable in a direction away from said fluid impermeable backsheet proximate said back region of said absorbent article, whereby a pocket for collection of fecal matter is formed.

2. An article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a width of said pocket traverses substantially an entire width of said back region.

3. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said flap sheet forms two opposed pleats along opposite sides of said pocket and disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal centerline of said elongated material.

4. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein at least one of said flap sheet, said fluid impermeable backsheet and said fluid permeable body-side liner comprises a nonwoven material.

5. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 4, wherein said nonwoven material is selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, bonded carded web and combinations thereof.

6. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said fluid permeable body-side liner is a multi-layer material comprising an absorbent layer and a fluid permeable top sheet, said absorbent layer being disposed between said fluid impermeable backsheet and said fluid permeable top sheet.

7. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said flap sheet is fluid impermeable.

8. A disposable diaper comprising:

a fluid impermeable outer cover, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to said fluid impermeable outer cover and a flap sheet attached to said fluid permeable body-side liner, said flap sheet expandable in a direction away from said fluid impermeable outer cover whereby a pocket is formed inside said disposable diaper proximate a back region of said disposable diaper.

9. A disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said flap sheet comprises at least two discrete pleats disposed along opposed sides of said pocket.

10. A disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said pocket substantially traverses an entire width of said back region of said disposable diaper.

11. A disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said flap sheet comprises a nonwoven web.

12. A disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 11, wherein said nonwoven web is selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, bonded carded web and combinations thereof.

13. A disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said fluid permeable body-side liner is a multi-layer material comprising an absorbent layer and a fluid permeable top sheet, said absorbent layer being disposed between said fluid impermeable outer cover and said fluid permeable top sheet.

14. A disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said flap sheet is fluid impermeable.

15. A method for producing a disposable absorbent article comprising the steps of:

forming a substantially rectangular multi-layer material comprising a fluid impermeable backsheet, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to one side of said fluid impermeable backsheet, and a flap sheet attached to said fluid permeable body-side liner whereby said body-side liner is disposed between said fluid impermeable backsheet and said flap sheet;

removing a portion of said material from opposed longitudinal edges of said substantially rectangular multi-layer material, producing two enlarged end portions and a narrowed portion intermediate said two enlarged end portions, one of said enlarged end portions corresponding to a back region of said disposable absorbent article; and

forming at least two discrete longitudinal pleats in said flap sheet proximate said back region.

16. A method in accordance with Claim 15, wherein at least one layer of said multi-layer material comprises a nonwoven material.

17. A method in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said nonwoven material is selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, bonded carded web and combinations thereof.